

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Complete Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) A panel assembly for a traffic noise barrier wall of the type including opposing slots formed in pairs of vertically-mounted posts, the panel assembly comprising:

a sheet of material having top, bottom, and side edges forming a perimeter of the sheet, said sheet having a sheet thickness that is less than each of said first slot width and said second slot width, and

a frame disposed along at least a portion of the perimeter of the sheet, wherein side portions of the frame include a base portion disposed along one of the side edges of the sheet and first and second flange portions projecting outward from the base portion on opposite sides of the sheet to define a channel between said first and second flange portions for capturing at least a portion of the side edges of the sheet, said frame having an overall thickness that is substantially equivalent to said base portion, said base portion having a substantially triangular cross-section, and said first and second flange portions extending from an apex of said base portion.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) The panel assembly of claim 15, wherein the sheet has a thickness less than a thickness of the first flange and less than a thickness of the second flange.

19. (Previously presented) The panel assembly of claim 15, wherein an elastomeric gasket is disposed between the outer surfaces of the side portions of the frame and surfaces forming the channel.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) The panel assembly of claim 15, wherein an elastomeric gasket covers at least a portion of the side edge of the sheet captured within the channel.

23. (Previously presented) The panel assembly of claim 15, wherein the base portion is disposed outside the entire perimeter of the sheet, and the channel formed by the base portion and the first and second flanges capture a portion of each of the top, bottom, and side edges of the sheet.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Original) The panel assembly of claim 23, further comprising:
at least one of a protrusion and a recess disposed on the base portion for interlocking with a second panel assembly.

27. (Original) The panel assembly of claim 15, wherein the sheet is formed from a transparent material.

28. (Original) The panel assembly of claim 15, wherein the frame extends along the entire perimeter of the sheet and captures at least a portion of each of the top, bottom and side edges of the sheet.

29. (Canceled)